

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 DRC-01 /121 W

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R 032303Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 376

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 6679

1. STANDING COMMITTEE OF KOREA-JAPAN COOPERATION
COMMITTEE AT MEETINGS IN SEOUL SEPT 28 AND 29 ADOPTED
RESOLUTION (A) TO PROMOTE JAPANESE COOPERATION IN
DEVELOPING KOREA'S HEAVY AND CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES AND
(B) TO URGE THAT KOREA-JAPAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE
TAKE PLACE SOON.

2. IN HIS OPENING SPEECH KOREAN PRESS REPORTED
THAT JAPANESE REPRESENTATIVE KISHI NOBOSUKE
SAID THAT THE "RECENT INCIDENT" BETWEEN KOREAN AND
JAPAN (I.E. KIM TAE-CHUNG CASE) HAD NO CONNECTION
WITH THE QUESTION OF MUTUAL COOPERATION.

3. AFTER TALKING WITH PRESIDENT PARK AND PRIME
MINISTER KIM CHONG-PIL, KISHI TOLD JAPANESE REPORTERS
THAT THE KOREAN LEADERS HAD EXPRESSED REGRET OVER
TROUBLE CAUSED FOR THE JAPANESE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT
BY THE KIM TAE-CHUNG INCIDENT. KISHI SAID THAT IN
THE MEETINGS THE KOREAN SIDE TOOK THE POSITION THAT,
SINCE THE KIM CASE AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION ARE
UNRELATED MATTERS, THEY WOULD DEAL WITH THEM
SEPARATELY. HE ADDED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED THE
IMPRESSION THAT AFTER SOME TIME THE (KIM) INCIDENT
WILL CERTAINLY BE SOLVED.

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4. KISHI'S REMARKS DESCRIBED PARA. 3 APPEARED
IN LOCAL PAPERS AND WAS ATTRIBUTED TO REPORT IN SEPT 29 SANKEI SHIMBUN.

5. KOREAN SIDE WAS LED BY PAEK TU-CHIN, CHAIRMAN
REVITALIZATION GROUP IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND FORMER
PRIME MINISTER AND SPEAKER. KOREAN MEMBERSHIP
INCLUDED SEVEN NATIONAL ASSEMBLYMEN, THREE FORMER
HIGH OFFICIALS AND ONLY FOUR BUSINESSMEN.

6. COMMENT: GOVERNMENT GAVE HEAVY PLAY TO
JAPANESE GROUP'S VISIT, PREDICTABLY HIGHLIGHTING IT
AS IMPLICIT EVIDENCE KIM TAE-CHUNG CASE NOT AFFECTING
BASIC ROK-JAPANESE RELATIONSHIPS.

7. WE UNDERSTAND THAT KISHI DID BRING UP KIM
TAE-CHUNG CASE DURING HIS CALL ON PRESIDENT PARK.
REPORTEDLY, PARK TOLD KISHI THAT ROKG REGRETS
FACT THAT INCIDENT TOOK PLACE AND IS DOING ALL IT
CAN TO FIND THOSE GUILTY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SEOUL06679
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS HABIB
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731053/aaaabnaj.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19-Nov-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <18-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KOREA-JAPAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND POLITICAL RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, JA, KS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005